Today's News - January 7, 2005

Design resolutions for the new year from the NEA Director of Design/Mayors' Institute on City Design. – Not a lot of cheerleaders for affordable housing and smart growth strategies in Massachusetts. – Opinions differ about Philadelphia's fight against blight. – High hopes (and high design) for Harlem. – Planner has big plans for Anacostia Waterfront Project. – Urban investors prefer Washington, D.C. to London and Tokyo. – Putting a lid on big-box retailers. – New police stations are community-friendly. – Affordable housing reader's guide. – Houses built by robots and pre-fab in our future. – Wanted: Peace Bridge design. – Foster's bridges, literally and figuratively. – Danish professor studying American fascination with Danish design. – American engineer deciphers Eiffel Tower's elegant shape. – One we couldn't resist: from the Guardian review of the film "White Noise": "Michael Keaton...plays an architect – a dream job in films, conferring creativity and class and generally requiring nothing more taxing than standing around pointing at cardboard model buildings." (If only it was that easy!)

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Jeff Speck: Dear mayors: Vibrant cities need your vision...City Design Resolutions for the New Year- Commercial Appeal (Memphis)

Little support for smart growth: Massachusetts' latest strategy to build more affordable housing and limit sprawl is drawing little enthusiasm...- Boston Globe

Mayor Street's fight against blight proceeds ahead of schedule: The divergent opinions about the [Neighborhood Transformation Initiative] show how difficult it is to gauge whether the program is making a lasting difference. - Philadelphia Inquirer

High Hopes for Harlem: A group of investors is betting \$220 million on a new Harlem renaissance, in the form of a new office, hotel and retail complex. - Enrique Norten [images]- The Slatin Report

D.C. Planner Takes Command Of Anacostia Waterfront Project: Land-Use Proposal for Stadium District Among Top Priorities- Washington Post

Washington, DC top spot for urban investors: bested London and Tokyo for the third year in a row.... Washington Times

Wauwatosa wants to put a lid on big boxes: joining a growing number of communities across the nation looking to impose stricter limits on - and sometimes capping the size of - so-called big-box retailers.- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Arresting design: police stations get a lift: ...spiffed-up buildings play an even more complex social role. - WWCOT Architecture; OWP/P; Roth & Sheppard Architects- San Francisco Chronicle

Affordable Housing Reader: ...more than 100 documents and articles from APA publications that examine the affordable housing problem...- American Planning Association (APA)

Houses built by robot? If scientist gets his way: ...takes its instructions from an architect's computerized drawings and then squirts successive layers of concrete, one on top of the other, to build vertical walls and domed roofs.- Los Angeles Times

Forecast: Fast and Warmer: This may be the year the prefab housing industry finally takes flight. By Julie lovine - Charles Lazor/Flatpak; Werner Aisslinger/Loftcube- New York

International bridge designers and architects invited to participate in design competition for the new Peace Bridge- Canadian Architect

Building bridges to the people: Sir Norman Foster: The striking designs of Britain's bestknown architect are admired and denounced in equal measure, but are always popular with the public.- graduateengineer.com (UK)

Bridge in the clouds: Something as wonderful as this could probably never be built in Britain. Grand Viaduc du Millau - Norman Foster- graduateengineer.com (UK)

<u>Danish detective: A question of desire: Professor wants to understand U.S. enthusiasm for his country's designs</u>- San Francisco Chronicle

Elegant shape of Eiffel Tower solved mathematically [by] American engineer- PhysOrg

- -- Richard Meier: Jesolo Lido Village, Jesolo Lido, Italy
- -- Rojkind Arquitectos: casa pR34, Tecamachalco, Mexico
- -- Travel: Design Hotel, Great Eastern Hotel, London
- -- Book: Eating Architecture, Edited by Jamie Horwitz & Paulette Singley

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